



USDA-NASS North Dakota Field Office

P. O. Box 3166, Fargo, ND 58108-3166
Telephone: 701-239-5306 FAX: 701-239-5613
E-mail: nass-nd@nass.usda.gov

NEWS RELEASE

Honey Production
February 28, 2006

North Dakota Honey Production Ranked Highest in the Nation

North Dakota

Honey production in 2005 from North Dakota producers with five or more colonies totaled 33.7 million pounds, up 11 percent from 2004, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This is the largest honey production level since 2000, when production was 34.5 million pounds. North Dakota ranked first in the nation for honey production for the second consecutive year.

There were 370,000 honey producing colonies in North Dakota during 2005, down 20,000 from 2004. Yield per colony averaged 91 pounds, up from 78 pounds in 2004. The highest yield on record was 142 pounds in 1972.

Producer honey stocks were 8.42 million pounds on December 15, 2005, down from 9.13 million pounds a year earlier. Prices for the 2005 crop averaged 81 cents per pound, down 21 cents from 2004. Prices were based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives.

United States

Honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 175 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2004. There were 2.41 million colonies producing honey in 2005, down 6 percent from 2004. Yield per colony averaged 72.5 pounds, up 1 percent from the 71.8 pounds in 2004. Producer honey stocks were 62.4 million pounds on December 15, 2005, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Honey prices decreased during 2005 to 90.4 cents, down 15 percent from 106.9 cents in 2004.

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value, Selected States and United States, 2004-2005

State	Producing Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Stocks on Hand Dec. 15 ^{1/}		Average Price Per Pound		Value of Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000	1,000	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Cents	Cents	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
North Dakota	390	370	78	91	30,420	33,670	9,126	8,418	102	81	31,028	27,273
California	390	400	45	75	17,550	30,000	5,792	9,300	101	84	17,726	25,200
Florida	205	160	98	86	20,090	13,760	2,009	2,477	100	87	20,090	11,971
Minnesota	135	120	75	74	10,125	8,880	1,924	1,598	104	83	10,530	7,370
Montana	140	130	77	67	10,780	8,710	3,773	3,136	105	80	11,319	6,968
South Dakota	215	220	105	79	22,575	17,380	13,545	11,818	100	76	22,575	13,209
United States	2,556	2,410	71.8	72.5	183,582	174,643	61,222	62,406	106.9	90.4	196,259	157,795

^{1/} Held by producers.

For More Information Contact:

David Knopf, Director, USDA, NASS, North Dakota Field Office • NDSU, IACC 448 • Fargo, ND • 701-239-5306
E-mail: nass-nd@nass.usda.gov • Internet: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/>